



## Central Seminar Series 2009

### A maxim for client-centred professional ethics in nursing

*Presented by*

**Evdokia Kalaitzidis**  
School of Nursing & Midwifery  
Flinders University

**Tuesday 12 May 2009**  
**3.00pm – 4.00pm**

**Scots Centre** (*next to Scots Church*)  
Cnr North Terrace and Pulteney Street, Adelaide

The purpose of this discussion is to examine an ethical maxim for nurses, that: “the nurse should act to optimise the patient’s self-determination”. I shall discuss the meaning of this maxim with reference to the following criteria: the maxim is consistent with a client-centred approach to nursing ethics and it provides a mechanism for the justification of the nurse’s decisions and actions.

*I am a lecturer in the school of nursing and midwifery at Flinders University. My teaching and research interests are in the application of a client-centred approach to professional practice and in particular to ethical decision-making. In addition to my academic responsibilities, I serve on the Social and Behavioural Research Committee at Flinders and on the ethics committee for the Royal District Nursing Society in South Australia. I am also a member of state minister’s Disability Advisory Council in South Australia.*

RSVP essential to Vicki Hattam,  
Centre Coordinator  
[vicki.hattam@unisa.edu.au](mailto:vicki.hattam@unisa.edu.au)

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